

# Kansas City VA Medical Center

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## Postgraduate Year One (PGY1) Pharmacy Practice Residency in Rural Health

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### Setting

The rural health pharmacy practice resident provides ambulatory care services to Veterans assigned to primary care teams located at the KCVA's Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs). The CBOCs are located in Overland Park and Paola, Kansas and in Belton, Cameron, Excelsior Springs, Nevada, and Warrensburg, Missouri. The CBOCs serve thousands of Veterans across Missouri and Kansas and function to provide high quality, accessible primary, preventative, and mental health care to Veterans in rural areas. The VA CBOCs deliver the same quality standards of care to Veterans that is provided through the KCVA Medical Center (MC). The rural health resident will work as part of an integrated multidisciplinary team consisting of primary care physicians, nurse practitioners, clinical pharmacists, social workers, registered nurses, and medical technicians



Initial training will be conducted at the main campus of the KCVA MC and the rural health resident will be afforded additional learning opportunities at the KCVA throughout the residency year. The KCVA MC currently provides services to over 43,000 of the veterans that reside in the Kansas City primary service area. The Medical Center is a tertiary care hospital that serves as a referral center for the Kansas VA Medical Centers in Leavenworth, Topeka, and Wichita as well as the Columbia, Missouri VA Medical Center. Specialty Care is also available to patients at the KCVA MC for evaluation and management of endocrine, pulmonary, gastroenterology, nephrology, cardiology, hematology/oncology, and geriatric disorders. Clinical Pharmacy Specialists play an integral role by enhancing care to all patients at the KCVA MC.

### Pharmacy Services

The resident, along with clinical pharmacy staff at the CBOCs, interacts and collaborates with physicians and nurses as a part of a healthcare team to optimize pharmaceutical care.

Pharmacy services at the rural CBOCs include pharmacist-directed chronic disease state management, group education classes, drug information, formulary management, and on-site medication dispensing and counseling. The

resident will also have the opportunity to develop innovative medication management services and patient care clinics.

The practice environment promotes the development of the skills necessary for the resident to function as an independent clinical pharmacy specialist.

### Pharmacoeconomics Division

The rural health resident will coordinate with PE specialists throughout the residency year. Activities may include evaluating new and evolving drug therapies, predicting, tracking and trending pharmacy budget, drug utilization evaluation, analyzing adherence to performance monitors, and research.

### Education and Training

Members of the pharmacy staff precept residents and UMKC clinical pharmacy-practice clerkship students.



### **Purpose**

The purpose of this Pharmacy Practice Residency Program in Rural Health is to train competent and confident practitioners by providing them with the clinical knowledge base to effectively and efficiently manage the unique pharmaceutical needs of the ambulatory patient population. By completing this comprehensive training program the resident will acquire the leadership and clinical skills necessary to practice as a proficient, well-rounded clinical pharmacy specialist in an ambulatory care setting.

### **Outcomes**

- Manage and improve the medication-use process.
- Provide evidence-based, patient-centered medication therapy management with interdisciplinary teams.
- Exercise leadership and practice management skills.
- Demonstrate project management skills.
- Provide medication and practice-related education/training.
- Utilize medical informatics.
- Participate in the management of medical emergencies.
- Provide drug information to health care professionals and/or the public.



This 12 month pharmacy practice rural health residency provides the resident exposure to diverse ambulatory pharmacy experiences. The residents is afforded the opportunity to longitudinally monitor patients' clinical progress through pharmacy-directed clinics. In addition, the resident will gain valuable experience in our pharmacy administrative programs, including budget preparation, local drug utilization reviews, and developing VA local drug monographs and/or criteria for use. The resident will work with the primary preceptor to develop a pharmacy newsletter appropriate for providers in the CBOC setting as well as providing educational programming for these providers as deemed necessary.

The resident will be afforded the opportunity to participate in many educational programs, including a teaching certificate program offered through the UMKC School of Pharmacy. As adjunct faculty of UMKC School of Pharmacy, the resident will gain experience in lecture preparation, didactic teaching, and in the precepting of students on site.

### **Rotations**

Structurally, the residency is conducted as a longitudinal clinic experience carried out at two Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC). The resident is simultaneously expected to prioritize and work on the ongoing clinical, didactic, staffing, and project activities. There is the opportunity for elective rotations that can be completed at the medical center to provide a well rounded experience.

The resident works closely with the residency director and the primary preceptor to develop goals and objectives that will assist the resident in expanding skills for current and future practice. Regular meetings with the residency director ensure that long-term goals of the residency program are fulfilled.

Completion of a residency project of the resident's choosing is also required. The resident will work with a pharmacy staff mentor to plan, carry out, and evaluate the results of these projects. Comprehensive project results are presented at the Midwest Residents Conference in May.

### **Required Rotations:**

- Orientation (2 weeks)
- Outpatient Pharmacy Clinics (1 month)
  - Anticoagulation
  - Diabetes
  - Cardiovascular
- CBOC Pharmacy Care Clinic (10 months)

### **Longitudinal Rotations:**

- Chronic Disease State Management
- Residency Project
- Practice Management
- Pharmacoeconomics
- Staffing

### **Elective Rotations:**

- General Medicine
- Medical Intensive Care
- Psychiatry
- Faculty
- Hematology/Oncology
- Infectious Disease
- Emergency Room



### Benefits

Benefits include health and life insurance, annual leave (vacation), days off for illness/medical appointments/family care and 10 paid federal holidays. The annual stipend is \$41,098 with *financial compensation for staffing*.

### Eligibility

Applicants must be a graduate of an American Council of Pharmaceutical Education accredited School of Pharmacy with a Pharm.D. degree. **Applicants must be U.S. citizens – a requirement to be employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs.**

### Application

The following items are required to be submitted for application to the program:

- Letter of intent specifying application for the **Pharmacy Practice Residency in Rural Health**
- Curriculum vitae
- Pharmacy school transcripts
- 3 letters of recommendation

A personal interview is required of all selected candidates. This program participates in the ASHP Matching Program.

Deadline for application receipt is **December 31, 2010**. Application materials should be sent to the Residency Director:

Lauri Witt, Pharm.D.  
Veterans Affairs Medical Center  
Pharmacy Services 119  
4801 E. Linwood Blvd.  
Kansas City, MO 64128

#### For addition information contact:

Lauri A. Witt, Pharm.D.  
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